

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5554
INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY MANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUXEMBOURG 1188

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, IC, BA, LU
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ICELANDIC CHICAGO-BAHRAIN SERVICE

REF: (A) STATE 310308
(B) MANAMA 2177
(C) REYKJAVIK 1683

1. ECON OFFICER DISCUSSED CHICAGE-BAHREIN SERVICE WITH
EINAR AAKRAM, DIRECTOR, LOFTLEIDER/ICELANDIC AIRLINE.
AAKRANN IS COMPANY COORDINATOR FOR THIS NEW SERVICE
AND HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A TRIP TO BAHREIN,
ABU DHABI, DUBAI, AND DOHA. ICELANDIC REPRESENTATIVES
FROM IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA MET WITH AAKRANN IN BAHRAIN.

2. ACCORDING TO AAKRANN, CHICAGE-BAHRAIN ONCE-WEEKLY
SERVICE IS DEFINITELY SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON TUESDAY
P. M. JANUARY 11. FLIGHT 800 DEPARTS CHICAGE 1930 HOURS
VIA REYKJAVIK AND LUXEMBOURG AND ARRIVES BAHRAIN
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 12 AT 2205. RETURN FLIGHT DEPARTS BAHRAIN
0905 ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 13. CONNECTIONS TO BAHRAIN BY
ICELANDIC FLIGHTS FROM NEW YORK WILL ALSO BE POSSIBLE
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IN LUXEMBOURG.

3. ICELANDIC PLANS TO CHARGE IATA-LEVEL FARES FOR
CHICAGO-BAHRAIN SERVICE. SAMPLE ECONOMY CLASS
FARES ARE: ONE WAY DOL 790; ROUND-TRIP DOL 1580,
FOURTEEN-TWENTY-ONE DAY EXCURSION DOL 1197.

4. COMPANY EXPECTS THAT ITS CHICAGO-BAHRAIN SERVICE WILL BE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE TO U. S., MIDDLE WEST, SOUTHWEST AND WEST VERSUS OTHER FOREIGN OR U. S. CARRIERS. NEW YORK-BAHRAIN SERVICE IS NOT EXPECTED TO EXCITE MUCH INTEREST GIVEN THE NEW DIRECT PAN AMERICAN FLIGHT AND TWA THROUGH FLIGHT VIA GENEVA.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE INFO ON DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING ICELANDIC OPERATIONS, PARTICULARLY IF OFFICIAL CONSULTATIONS PROVE NECESSARY. GINN

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